

REMARKS

Applicants cancelled claims 1-21 and added new claims 22-39. Claims 22-39, of which claims 22, 27, 30, and 38-39 are independent in form, are pending in the application.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-10 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Applicants cancelled claims 1-10, which obviates the rejection.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-2, 5, 9, 11-12, 15, 19, and 21 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. 6,022,374 (Imran), and claims 1-2; 5, 8-9, 11-12, 15, and 18-19 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by U.S. 6,231,598 (Berry et al.). Applicants cancelled claims 1-2, 5, 8-9, 11-12, 15, 18-19, and 21, which obviates the rejections.

The Examiner rejected claims 3-4, 6-7, 10, 13-14, 16-17, and 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. 6,022,374 (Imran) in view of U.S. 6,355,058 (Pacetti et al.). Applicants cancelled claims 3-4, 6-7, 10, 13-14, 16-17, and 20, which obviates the rejection.

New claims 22-39 are not anticipated by Imran or Berry, for at least the reasons provided below.

Claims 22-26 and 39 recite a stent or a method of making a stent that includes a washer. Neither Imran nor Berry discloses or suggests a stent or a method of making a stent that includes a washer. Thus, Imran and Berry do not anticipate claims 22-26 and 39.

Claims 27-29 and 38 recite a stent or a method of making a stent comprising a stent body defining a hole and a radiopaque rivet including a shaft with a diameter that is smaller than a diameter of the hole. Neither Imran nor Berry discloses or suggests a stent with a stent body defining a hole and a radiopaque rivet including a shaft with a diameter that is smaller than a diameter of the hole. Thus, Imran and Berry do not anticipate claims 27-29 and 38.

Claims 30-37 recite a method of making a stent comprising inserting a rivet into a hole defined by a stent body. The rivet comprises a first end and a shaft, the first end having a diameter greater than a diameter of the shaft. The method also comprises increasing a diameter of an end of the rivet. Neither Imran nor Berry discloses or suggests inserting the claimed rivet into a hole in a stent body and increasing a diameter of an end of the rivet. Thus, Imran and Berry do not anticipate claims 30-37.

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Applicants believe that the claims are in condition for allowance, which action is requested.